

THE WIDE-AWAKE CIRCLE

Boys' and Girls' Department.

Rules for Young Writers
1—Write plainly on one side of the paper only, and number the pages.
2—Use pen and ink, not pencil.
3—Short and pointed articles will be given preference. Do not use over 250 words.
4—Original stories or letters only will be used.
5—Write your name, age and address plainly at the bottom of the story.

WIDE-AWAKE POETRY.

MY NEIGHBOR.

I have a new neighbor just over the way. She was moving in one the first of May. When she took in her household goods I saw
They were nothing but rubbish and sticks and straw.
But when I made her a call just now, I found she had furnished her house somehow
All trim and tidy, and nice and neat—
The prettiest cottage in all the street.
Of chintz and silk was her carpet fine. A thousand times softer and better than mine;
Her curtains to shut out the heat and light
And the dainty roof of her tiny home
Was a broad green leaf like an emerald dome.
The commonest nook you ever did see,
Mrs. Yellowbird's nest in the apple tree.
—Exchange.

UNCLE JED'S TALK TO WIDE-AWAKES.

It will be 144 years on the fourth of July since the Declaration of Independence was signed. That great document which was followed by a cruel war marked the beginning of this glorious nation which has grown from the sparsely settled 13 colonies to a country of 41 states and a population of 105,000,000 people, and recognized as one of the powerful and influential nations of the world.
In there any wonder that Young America, and their elders as well, should be anxious to celebrate the courageous course that was adopted almost a century and a half ago by those sturdy believers in the rights of the colonies? Isn't it the most natural thing in the world that generation after generation should desire to attest its approval, demonstrate its appreciation of the efforts and sacrifices that were made by these early patriots and show that the rugged lessons of Americanism instilled during those trying days are still an inspiration to the boys and girls of today?
It was because of the brave, far-sighted action of those men of '76 that we are permitted today to enjoy the wonderful privileges of this land of liberty, to live under a flag which assures opportunity for all and to enjoy a government of the

people, by the people and for the people.
We of today and those of tomorrow can never forget the significance of the signing of the Declaration of Independence and as we celebrate, taking due care that the observance should be as sane as the signing was deliberate, we should give due reflection to the meaning of the day.
Blow your horns, ring the bells, make a racket but don't forget what the reason for it is!

WINNERS OF PRIZE BOOKS.

- 1—Freda Langer, of Gurleyville—Grace Harlowe Overtones.
- 2—Alice White, of New London—Ruth Fielding Down East.
- 3—Lillian Anderson, of Brooklyn—The Camp Fire Girls Amid the Snows.
- 4—Joseph Gitlin, of New London—The Boy Volunteers With the British Artillery.
- 5—Lillian M. Culver, of Glasgow—Miss Pat's Holiday at Greycroft.
- 6—Betty Benson, of North Stonington—Uncle Wiggly at the Seashore.
- 7—Hilda Walsh, of Plainfield—Rip Van Winkle.

Winners of prize books living in the city can obtain them by calling at the business office after 10 a. m. Thursday.

LETTERS OF APPRECIATION.

Una Belle Harbeck of Norwich Town— I wish to thank you very much for the prize book entitled "The Invasion of the United States." It is very interesting.

Herbert W. Johnson of Mansfield Center— I received the book you sent me entitled "The Battle of New York" and found it interesting, and I thank you very much for it.

Lena Fournier of Glasgow—Received the prize book entitled "The Battle of New York." I have not read it through but am sure it will be very interesting. I thank you very much.

LETTERS WRITTEN BY WIDE-AWAKES.

Dora and Helen did not have anything to do, since school had let out, so they thought they would make up a club. They would get many of their girl friends to join it. Helen said that they would vote for a president and would initiate the members. So they did all this and the president was Dora. They had a meeting and teased and teased her mother that they would go on a picnic. So they went home that afternoon after the meeting and teased her mother to go with them because they did not want to go on the picnic by themselves. So at last her mother decided that she would go with the girls. The picnic was going to be on Saturday and it was then Friday. All the time Dora and Helen were in their beds they were thinking what a fine time they would have on the day following. After a

long sleep the day finally came. The children were to meet at Dora's house at 10 o'clock. They all were there and all had taken their lunches. They walked through the narrow paths in the woods and at last they came to a shady pine tree. They spread big napkins on the green grass and sat down. There was a little brook running down beside them and there were different kinds of birds singing. It was a pleasure to listen to all these things. Well, the children surely enjoyed themselves that day and they still go on picnics and have meetings just like all other children do.

New London. ALICE WHITE.

Marie's Christmas Dream.

Marie had finished saying her prayer and was tucked up nice and snug in her little white bed. She was very sleepy and hardly heard her mother's voice say, "Good night, Marie, pleasant dreams." Soon she fell asleep.
Suddenly she heard a noise and looked around but saw nothing. Then she heard the noise again and so she ran to the nursery from whence the noise came. What do you think she saw? Why, all her toys and dolls and teddy bear, and everything were moving, and talking and playing. When she saw Marie they invited her in and she accepted their other things. With the touch of her fairy doll's wand she suddenly became small. "We are waiting for Santa Claus," they all said. "We invited him, and he said he would come," said the fairy doll.
All of a sudden a knock was heard and Santa Claus came in laden with toys. They all gave him a very warm welcome. They played games and all were happy. The fairy doll asked them to come into the room where the feast was to be held. After the feast Santa Claus gave them their presents. I will just tell you what Marie got for her Christmas present. It was a beautiful doll and teddy bear. The doll had many beautiful clothes. Then Santa Claus said good bye and everybody said good bye and went home.

Plainfield. HILDA WALSH, Age 12.

Graduation Exercises.

The graduation exercises were held at Storrs, Conn., Friday evening, June 18, at 8 o'clock. There were thirteen children, ten of whom were girls and three boys. There were three graduates from the Gurleyville school, two from the Mansfield Depot school, two from the Mansfield City school and one from Storrs school.
First the graduates marched up to the platform and sat down. Six essays and two poems were recited by some of the graduates. One piano solo was played. The essays were "The School Nurse" and "Her Work." The History of Mansfield, What Good Citizenship Means, Why Go to High School? Manufacturing of Mansfield and The Industries of Connecticut.

We were going to have running races, potato races, spiking races, three-legged races, and many other races. We only had one running race. Irene Maine was the girl and she won.
The whole school sang Greeting Song, Flag of Our Country and America.
I spoke and sang both. I spoke The Four-Leaf Clover and Dandelions and two "ris beside myself and three boys sang.

There were many people at the picnic. I wish you could have been there. — BETTY BENSON, Age 9, North Stonington.

An Easy Way to Pay Debts.

At one time the famous author, Mr. Kipling, always paid his bills, no matter how small they happened to be, with checks. After a while he discovered to his amazement that his bank account showed a much larger balance than the counterfoils of his check book warranted; in fact, while he was drawing checks for small amounts almost daily, his money in the bank did not seem to dwindle in the least.
For a long time he was at a loss to account for this astonishing fact until he happened one day to visit the office, the occupant of which was an enthusiastic autograph collector. There the author saw one of his own checks framed and hanging on the wall.
Thus the mystery was solved. It appeared that the local shop keepers found

The poems were Columbus and In Flaming Field.
The songs which the children sang were The Star Spangled Banner, The Jolly Whistler and Flow Gently, Sweet Afton. Five of the graduates had no pieces in the exercises.
After the graduates had recited, the certificates were given to the graduates by Leonard Smith, the chairman of the school committee. After that Principal George H. Shaffer of the Willimantic Normal school made an address to the people. Then America was sung by the people and the children.
The graduation exercises lasted about two hours. I enjoyed the evening very much.

FREDA SANGER, Age 12, Gurleyville.

Our Photograph.

Dear Uncle Jed: One day I went to have my picture taken with my little pussy cat. My mother did not know how she was to keep me still long enough. I was very fond of pussy and the cat and I were taken to the photograph room. Puss did not feel at home in the room. It was as hard to keep her still as it was me. Puss did not care about having her picture taken, but she liked to play with me. Mrs. Parrish placed pussy in my lap, and both of us were happy then. The artist was going to put me as he wanted me in the picture; but I thought the man meant to take pussy away from me. I put my arms around pussy and held her as tight as I could.
"You shan't have my pussy," said I looking at the man. "I was just right then. The artist drew the slide and took my picture."
THEODORE CONATY, Age 8, Glasgow.

A Surprise.

The first week of my vacation was spent with my sister who lives in Mansfield. My sister and I would play with her children outside during the nice weather, but in the house when it rained.
Sunday we had a very nice surprise. Mother came home, where our mother and father awaited us with a cheery welcome, my brothers and sisters having gone down street in the home where the feast was to be held. After the feast Santa Claus gave them their presents. I will just tell you what Marie got for her Christmas present. It was a beautiful doll and teddy bear. The doll had many beautiful clothes. Then Santa Claus said good bye and everybody said good bye and went home.

After a while we withdrew to the parlor, where I drummed on the piano. Suddenly our telephone rang and father hastened to answer it. When he came back into the room he told us that my sister who moved to Ohio was coming home with her husband and children. We were delighted with the news and hurried to prepare for their home-coming. We also prepared a little lunch for them, thinking they must be tired and hungry after their long journey.

The children are cute and we have fun with them. We are glad they are going to stay with us about a month more.

LILLIAN ANDERSON, Age 11, Brooklyn.

The Hewitt School Picnic.

Dear Uncle Jed: I am going to tell you about our school picnic. Yesterday (June 17) Hewitt school, the one I go to, was out. We had a picnic. First we had some children speak and sing. Then we had our picnic. There is a big ash tree in back of our school. We had the picnic there. We had two kinds of ice cream. I brought wild strawberries for the strawberries—ice cream. We had cake, cookies, lemonade and sandwiches. We had cones for ice cream.
We were going to have running races, potato races, spiking races, three-legged races, and many other races. We only had one running race. Irene Maine was the girl and she won.
The whole school sang Greeting Song, Flag of Our Country and America.
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There were many people at the picnic. I wish you could have been there. — BETTY BENSON, Age 9, North Stonington.

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that they could often get more for Kipling's checks by selling them to automobile hunters than they could by cashing them at the bank, and so, although the author kept on drawing checks, his bank balance remained almost intact.
LENA FOURNIER, Age 11, Glasgow.

Dandelioning.

Tom and I left the house at 10 o'clock in the morning on a beautiful June day. It was Saturday, so we made up our mind to go dandelioning and stay out all day.
We took our lunch and six baskets. We started to work.
At 12 o'clock we had all the baskets and started for the city (hiding our lunch in the bushes), where he determined to sell them.
The first six houses we went to bought them all and we got an income of \$2.50. We divided the money, getting each \$1.25. I went into a baker's shop and bought a half dozen doughnuts for 10 cents' worth of candy, two bottles of soda, buying two ice cream cones and 15 cents' worth of candy, two bottles of soda water, and spending 50 cents for all the things we bought, 25 cents apiece.
We then went back to the woods and ate our lunch, which tasted very good after an hour's rest we started to work again.
Filling our baskets, we started back to the city again, selling our dandelions for \$1.50.
We then had \$2.50 each. It was the biggest day we had that year, and during the whole year I made \$19.61.
JOSEPH GITLIN, Age 11, New London.

Down in the Country.

Dear Uncle Jed: I am going to tell you about my vacation on the farm. We visit the farm every year. We usually come in an auto but we came on the train this year.
Today we went and got the mail. When we came home my mother went out in the field and got some wild strawberries.
NEWTON CARLSON, Age 10, North Stonington.

The Bird I Tried to Save.

One day while I was walking along a path in the woods, I saw a bird lying on the ground. I hurriedly picked it up and turning it over on its back saw it had a broken leg. At first I felt timid. I didn't know just what to do. My friend who was with me told me to put it back in its nest, but I didn't want to, for I knew it would have suffered too much. So I brought it home and showed it to my father. He said the best thing to do with it was to kill it for it was going to die anyway. He then took his gun and shot it. We both tried all we could to save but it was no use. I was sorry to see the poor bird die that way, but I was glad to see that I didn't suffer as much as it would if we had put it in its nest and had let it die alone.
LEONA DOTSON, Age 13, Glasgow.

Molly Pitcher.

Dear Uncle Jed: Do you know the story of Molly Pitcher? This is the way I learned it.
Molly Pitcher was the wife of a gunner who fought in the revolution. She forgot she could not swim well; her only thought was for her brother. She was in the water in a moment swimming after her brother. She caught him just as he was sinking, and with her arm around him was trying to reach the shore. Her strength was giving out and she felt herself gradually getting fainter and fainter, but she had faith in her swimming, and was determined to save her brother. As she was almost sinking she left a strong arm about her and she knew her father held her safe. Then she lost consciousness and everything was dark.
The next thing she knew she was sitting in an armchair with brother right near asking for "more of dat milk toast."
CATHERINE C. HAYES, Age 14, Norwich.

The School Picnic.

Dear Uncle Jed: At the close of school each day the different rooms go on a picnic. Our room was planning to go to a Kawgo pond. We knew what to bring and we had already hired the truck to carry us. But when we awoke on Thursday morning it was raining, great and we were disappointed.
When we went to school after our promotion cards, the teacher decided to have the picnic in the large assembly hall.
None of us had brought the things for the picnic for the lunch because we did not suppose we would have the picnic. So we all went home and got them.
When they were all back we began to play games. We played Winkum, Animal, Vegetable, and Mineral Matter; going to Jerusalem, and tricks like talking pictures in a teapoon, picking out the different books and thinking of an object in the room and the person outside guesses what it is.
After we had finished playing games, we had lunch. It consisted of sandwiches, pickles, olives, cake, oranges, bananas, candy and lemonade.
The janitor of the school house got tired of waiting for us, as he thought he must do, then he went home right after we had cleaned up the things after eating. But we had a picnic as planned as we could have had out of doors.
GLADYS BARBER, Age 14, Hope Valley, R. I.

On the Beach.

Wilfred and I spent a whole day at the beach. Wilfred used his shovel and I carried the sand he dug up in his little wagon. It was a pleasant day and there were plenty of people on the shore.
Among them was a very old man. His clothes were all in rags. He said he had to take care of his sick daughter and his little grandson. He had been sick himself and not able to work. He had come to the beach to dig clams, for they had nothing in the house to eat.
Wilfred helped him with his shovel. While he was at work I ran down to him with a silver dollar in my hand. It frightened us so we could hardly breathe. It was the roaring of a bull coming nearer and nearer. One of the boys shouted "Climb a tree," and we all ran for one. Even my mother, and she, too, was on up in one.
The bull soon came tearing under the tree and all of us were looking down on him. Of course when we ran for the tree we dropped our pails which were partly filled with nice red raspberries and the bull was running around eating the berries out of the pails.
When we got home Grandpa said to us, "Where are the berries?" Then we told him of our escape from the bull. He was very glad we all reached home safely.
PLAINFIELD.

A Trip to Hartford.

One day in July two summers ago our family went for a ride to Hartford in an automobile. It was a lovely day, being very hot. When we came to Willimantic we saw large fields of tobacco covered over with canvas cloth, to keep the sun from beating on it, and we also saw large apple trees full of apples. In Willimantic we had to stop for some gasoline and while we were waiting we had lunch, and then when we were ready again we started for Hartford. What attracted our attention most was the Capitol. It was quite a large building and looked very nice on the outside. We did not go inside because we were in a hurry. We went into a hotel in Hartford and had some dinner. By the time we got all through our dinner it was 1 o'clock. We just had time to visit the five and ten cent store and the girls were getting ready to go home.
We bought a few articles of home use. We liked the best and then started for home. When we arrived there it was about 10 o'clock. We were very tired. When we got home it was about 10 o'clock. We were all very tired. We went right to bed and did not get up very early the next morning.
NETTIE HAMMILL, Age 12, New London.

My Experience on a Farm.

My father, mother, sister and I started to prepare for a trip to a farm. My uncle and aunt also went with us. We never had any hardships on the way. When we arrived there it was about 10 o'clock. My sister and I went up to the barn where all the children were playing. They were surprised to see us. They milked some of the cows by hand and the rest by milking machines. There were about 100 cows. They had cows, chickens, pigs and many other animals. The night before we went home Edwin, my father, sister and I went after the cows. We put them in the stalls and went down to the house. My mother and I went home. We had a very good time.
DOROTHY CAMPBELL, Age 11, Norwich, R. I.

The Triumph of Faith.

Patricia was sitting on the sand after her first attempt to swim. Father himself had said she was so beautifully and as she sat on the sand she kept hoping that some time her turn would come to show her skill.
As she turned her head toward the blue water Patricia's eyes met a sight that spread a wave of terror through her. There walking up the springboard was little Joseph, Patricia's small brother, just three years old. Little Joe, of course, did not know how to swim. Patricia forgot how deep the water was, she forgot she could not swim well; her only thought was for her brother. She was in the water in a moment swimming after her brother. She caught him just as he was sinking, and with her arm around him was trying to reach the shore. Her strength was giving out and she felt herself gradually getting fainter and fainter, but she had faith in her swimming, and was determined to save her brother. As she was almost sinking she left a strong arm about her and she knew her father held her safe. Then she lost consciousness and everything was dark.
The next thing she knew she was sitting in an armchair with brother right near asking for "more of dat milk toast."
CATHERINE C. HAYES, Age 14, Norwich.

Putnam.

Shore Line electric railway leaving Putnam center at 2 o'clock jumped the track on upper School street at the fork in the road near the Prentiss junction. The car left the rails on the bridge over the brook running into Leonard pond and shot directly across the highway at right angles to the tracks. The rear truck remained on the rails, while the front end of the car wedged in against the side of the bridge, blocking all travel both on the trolley line and on the state highway. There were only two passengers in the car at the time and neither was in any way injured. A call was sent to the Dayville car barn for the wrecking crew and in about an hour after its arrival the car was back on the rails and the line was again on regular schedule.

Pierre Bonin, local agent of a large insurance company, left Putnam Monday for Saratoga Springs, N. Y., where he is to be the guest of his company for the remainder of the week. He is the only agent of the company in the Norwich district to achieve the honor of being cited as a "steady increase." While he is at Saratoga Springs, side trips are planned which will include a visit to Lake George and to Niagara. Mr. Bonin will return to Putnam Saturday.

William Macdonald, superintendent of Putnam schools, with Mrs. Macdonald and son, left Putnam Wednesday morning for Maine, where they are to pass the summer. They made the trip by automobile.
The first indications of anything in the nature of a Fourth of July celebration for Putnam this year appeared Wednesday morning in the announcement of the Manufacturers' Manufacturing company that a 2.50 next Monday afternoon the company hand will give a concert at the Mansfield ground, following which the baseball team representing that company will meet the Red Sox of Whitinsville, a team that comes to Putnam with a good record this far this season. The authorities are predicting a quiet Fourth. The sale of fireworks and fireworks is reported by dealers to be fairly large, but mostly in the nature of very small pieces that are bought by youngsters.
Rev. G. C. S. MacKay, pastor of the Putnam Baptist church, and a number of delegates representing the church Sunday school were in attendance at the annual convention of the 33d anniversary of Ashford Baptist Sunday school convention at the Eastford Baptist church. The day had a

300 STEADY JOBS NOW OPEN

Jobs now open, due to the completion of several factory buildings. NO LABOR TROUBLE. Many mechanical operations of high class work, on which experience is not absolutely necessary but preferable. Large variety general factory work. We have rooms available for 500 single men. If interested, call at Del Hoff Hotel, between 2 p. m. and 10 p. m. Wed. and Thurs. Ask for Mr. Rogers, or write to

NEW DEPARTURE MFG. CO.

BRISTOL, CONN.

Mr. Griffith will be at RILEY HOTEL, CENTRAL VILLAGE, from 2 p. m. to 8 p. m., Thursday and Friday.

Too Fat?

EASY, HOME SELF TREATMENT

Overstoutness weakens the liver because sluggish, fat accumulates in the action becomes weak, energy fails, work is an effort and the beauty of the figure is destroyed.
Fat excess is unhealthy. It shortens lives of many. Don't allow your health to be ruined through a burden of unhealthy fat. Become slender. Second some time to the open air; breathe deeply. Get from any druggist a box of Korein and follow Korein system simple directions that come with it.
Weigh yourself and take your measurements every week. Continue eating until you are down to normal. Korein system is absolutely harmless, is pleasant, and even a few days treatment is likely to show a noticeable reduction. Legions of testimonials.
Korein system (pronounced *kor-ayn*) has succeeded where other remedies, etc., have failed. It is the delight of those who wish to improve their figure and to acquire a young, active appearance. \$100.00 guarantee that you reduce 10 to 60 pounds (whatever you need to) or cost you nothing! Buy Korein at any drug pharmacy; follow directions. Show stout friends this advertisement.

Grandfather's Spectacles.

One day Grandfather Shiff lost his spectacles. "Where can they be?" he said. They were on the mantel." So he hunted and hunted but could not find them on the mantel.
"Where can they be? Perhaps they are among the books." So he hunted and hunted but could not find them among the books.
"Perhaps they are in the dining room." So he hunted and hunted and hunted, but could not find them in the dining room.
At last he asked Aunt Harrie, the cook.
"Why, master, there they are right square on the top of your head."
And sure enough there they were. Didn't we all laugh at grandfather.
WILFRED HAMMILL, Age 9, Glasgow.

Str Philip Sidney.

Sir Philip Sydney was a brave man and fought valiantly for his country, but his- tory remembers him best not by his gallant exploits on the field of battle, but by the gentle deed that crowned the last hour of his life.
He was shot and mortally wounded. As he was borne fainting from the field, he asked for water. It was brought to him, but as he was about to raise it to his lips he saw the eyes of a dying soldier fixed upon it with passionate longing. Leaning forward Sir Philip handed the cup to the dying soldier and said, "Drink my friend, they need it greater than mine."
ELIA BORONICKA, West Willington.

PUTNAM

(Continued from Page Six)

Shore Line electric railway leaving Putnam center at 2 o'clock jumped the track on upper School street at the fork in the road near the Prentiss junction. The car left the rails on the bridge over the brook running into Leonard pond and shot directly across the highway at right angles to the tracks. The rear truck remained on the rails, while the front end of the car wedged in against the side of the bridge, blocking all travel both on the trolley line and on the state highway. There were only two passengers in the car at the time and neither was in any way injured. A call was sent to the Dayville car barn for the wrecking crew and in about an hour after its arrival the car was back on the rails and the line was again on regular schedule.

Pierre Bonin, local agent of a large insurance company, left Putnam Monday for Saratoga Springs, N. Y., where he is to be the guest of his company for the remainder of the week. He is the only agent of the company in the Norwich district to achieve the honor of being cited as a "steady increase." While he is at Saratoga Springs, side trips are planned which will include a visit to Lake George and to Niagara. Mr. Bonin will return to Putnam Saturday.

William Macdonald, superintendent of Putnam schools, with Mrs. Macdonald and son, left Putnam Wednesday morning for Maine, where they are to pass the summer. They made the trip by automobile.
The first indications of anything in the nature of a Fourth of July celebration for Putnam this year appeared Wednesday morning in the announcement of the Manufacturers' Manufacturing company that a 2.50 next Monday afternoon the company hand will give a concert at the Mansfield ground, following which the baseball team representing that company will meet the Red Sox of Whitinsville, a team that comes to Putnam with a good record this far this season. The authorities are predicting a quiet Fourth. The sale of fireworks and fireworks is reported by dealers to be fairly large, but mostly in the nature of very small pieces that are bought by youngsters.
Rev. G. C. S. MacKay, pastor of the Putnam Baptist church, and a number of delegates representing the church Sunday school were in attendance at the annual convention of the 33d anniversary of Ashford Baptist Sunday school convention at the Eastford Baptist church. The day had a

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